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13 November 1981

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Z460-BRANDT

SONA: NOV 13, REUTER -- WEST GERMANY'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SPD) TODAY WELCOMED AN OFFICIAL U.S. DENIAL OF REPORTS THAT SPD CHAIRMAN AND FORMER CHANCELLOR WILLY BRANDT HAD WORKED FOR THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA).

THE SPD ALSO PUBLISHED THE TEXT OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT DENIAL, WHICH DESCRIBED THE ALLEGATIONS AS "RUMORS, HEARSAY AND PURE FABRICATION."

PARTY SPOKESMAN WOLFGANG CLEMENT SAID THE DEPARTMENT'S PROMPT REJECTION OF ACCUSATIONS IN AN ARTICLE ON WEDNESDAY BY SYNDICATED COLUMNIST JACK ANDERSON WAS "VERY PLEASING."

THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID THE CHARGES WERE SIMILAR TO PREVIOUS REPORTS IN GERMAN AND AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS, WHICH HAD PROVED UNTRUE IN EACH CASE.

THE ARTICLE SAID MR BRANDT ACCEPT MONEY BETWEEN THE END OF WORLD WAR II AND 1956 FROM THE CIA.

MR BRANDT ISSUED AN ANGRY DENIAL OF THE CHARGE ON WEDNESDAY AND SAID: "I CONSIDER IT SHAMEFUL THAT CORRUPT NEWS DEALERS ARE IN A POSITION TO FIND A PLACE FOR THEIR LIES IN A REOWNED AMERICAN NEWSPAPER." THE ANDERSON COLUMN WAS PRINTED IN THE WASHINGTON POST.

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